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COMIC SHOP NEWS™

ARROW

Arrow Targets Comics and TV Fans

It's not unhead of for a comic book to serve as the basis for a television series. Nor is it uncommon for a television series to make the leap to comics. However, ***Arrow's*** situation is quite out of the ordinary: a comic book, ***Green Arrow,*** serves as the inspiration for the CW television series ***Arrow,*** which in turn is the basis for the new ***Arrow*** comic book. Even more unusual, the comic book is launching at almost the same time as the television series, creating a real synergy.

"Thanks for noticing that," ***Arrow*** television series executive producer and ***Arrow*** comics writer *Marc Guggenheim* said. "To my knowledge, this is the first time a comic book has been simultaneously published along with the broadcast of a television show. Moreover, we're doubling down by making the comic book tie in directly to the TV show and vice versa. In other words, the events of the comics are considered. And one of the ways were guaranteeing that happens is that the comic is being written exclusively by people involved with the production of the television show."

Guggenheim is no comics novice; while he's been involved in such excellent television series such as ***Eli Stone, FlashForward,*** and ***No Ordinary Family,*** he has also has produced some superlative comics work over the past few years, including runs on ***The Flash, Amazing Spider-Man,*** and ***Justice Society of America.*** as well as the creator-owned project ***Halcyon,*** co-written with *Tara Butters.*

How did the plans for the comic coalesce, and how far along was the television series at the time it came together as a comic book? "This all started when DC comics suggested publishing a free tie-in comic to give away at San Diego comic con," Guggenheim said. "I honestly forget who's idea it was, but I remember that *Andrew [Kreisberg,* also an executive producer on CW's ***Arrow]*** and I jumped on it immediately—and then almost equally immediately agreed that it should tie directly into the series canon. And, in fact, that Comic-Con preview issue ties directly into Episode 3 and even lays some easter eggs for the endgame of Season 1."

As was the case with the ***Smallville*** series, CW and the production team have made changes in Green Arrow's world for the series ***Arrow.*** Guggenheim offered some insight into what elements of the character they kept and what was modified. "We've worked hard to maintain the essence of the character," Guggenheim said. "Our approach is closest, I would say, to the grounded take established in *Mike Grell's* ***Longbow Hunters*** mini and the subsequent relaunch of ***Green Arrow's*** monthly series.

"We've maintained his backstory—wealthy ne'er-do-well shipwrecked on island and returns with a thirst for justice—and certainly kept his archery abilities. We've given him trick arrows -- you see them in Episodes 1, 2 and 6, for example -- but have kept them grounded and mostly technology-based. In other words, no boxing glove arrow for the time being!

"Probably our biggest modification from the comics is the introduction of new characters for his supporting cast—most notably, we kept his mother, Moira, alive, whereas in the comics she died along with Oliver's father, Robert. We also gave him a sister, Thea, and a best friend in the form of Tommy Merlyn. Fans of the comic, however, will know that Merlyn is the Green Arrow's main nemesis."

What elements of the character *had* to be maintained, as far as Guggenheim is concerned? "This strikes me as one of those questions where the answer will be disappointing to someone, but... Oliver's character—wealthy, spoiled kid who develops a thirst for justice—and the backstory of being marooned on an island where he developed his archery skills, were non-negotiable. You also need a green outfit and, of course, a bow and arrows. Those, to me, are the core elements. There's an argument to be made for the goatee, though!..." Guggenheim joked.

What convinced Guggenheim, along with *Greg Berlanti* and *Andrew Kreisberg,* that the time was right for an ***Arrow*** television series? After all, it's only been a couple of years since the end of ***Smallville,*** which prominently featured Green Arrow in its cast. "To be honest, there wasn't much consideration of the timing. I think the timing had more to do with the fact that *Greg Berlanti* had just made a big production deal with Warner Bros. and wanted to do a Green Arrow series. My involvement was similarly contemporaneous because I was already working with Greg and Warner Bros. on another pilot, so there was some serendipity in terms of the timing. That said, the vacuum that ***Smallville's*** end left was certainly a help, but it wasn't a huge factor either way."

Not only are the Guggenheim and Kreisberg producing original stories for the ***Arrow*** comic rather than adapting television episodes, but they're keeping the television series adaptation-free. "They're all original stories," Guggenheim stressed. "We take inspiration from the comics where we can and when appropriate, but this is a different interpretation. We haven't yet taken a comic story and done a straight-up adaptation of it. I'm not entirely sure that we would. My hope and expectation is that the correlation between the comic and the TV show will be similar to other comic-to-TV/movie adaptations—i.e., you start to see them influence each other. For example, in ***Green Arrow #0,*** Tommy Merlyn is introduced as Oliver's best friend (before he becomes Green Arrow), so that's one example of the adaptation street being a two-way one."

Is Arrow the only hero in this world, or will we see the introduction of other heroes as the season goes along? "Well, the Arrow would say—and does, in fact, in Episode 6—that he's not a hero. On ***Arrow,*** the definition of the word 'hero' is certainly up for debate, and it's something we like to explore. That said, comic book fans will definitely want to tune into Episodes 7 & 8, which feature the introduction of Helena Bertinelli—a/k/a the Huntress—into our universe."

Guggenheim, Berlanti, and Kreisberg may be tired of ***Smallville*** comparisons by now, but ***Smallvile*** gradually grew to encompass a significant portion of the DCU in modified form; does Guggenheim see Arrow moving that way? "First, we're *flattered* by the ***Smallville*** comparisons," Guggenheim replied. "We should be so lucky as to have as long and storied a run as that show did!

"As for the rest of the DCU, the answer to your question is 'yes... kinda.' In the first few episodes, we've already acknowledged that there's a larger DCU outside of Starling City—e.g., references to Blüdhaven, Monument Point, Coast City, etc. That said, unlike ***Smallville,*** this is *not* a version of the DCU where people have super-powers, so while we'll eventually be expanding outward from Starling City, we'll be expanding out into a DCU which is a bit more grounded than the once ***Smallville*** was able to depict."

Will Guggenheim and Kreisberg continue to write the comic book series, or is their schedule too full to allow for a full-time comics commitment? "We're certainly continuing to write it—I just finished a Huntress chapter, for example -- but we wouldn't be able to do it all without the help of our extremely talented writing staff."

Will ***Arrow*** focus on shorter standalone stories in its comics incarnation, or will readers see longer story arcs. "At the moment, artist schedules lock us until standalone stories," Guggenheim said, "but we definitely want to move on to longer arcs as soon as we can."

What is the most pleasant surprise that readers familiar with the DCU will discover when they're reading—and watching—***Arrow?*** "To be honest? That the show is *good,*" Guggenheim said. "I think a lot of people have been very surprised by the quality of the show. I'm always tickled when I read online that people are surprised by how good the show is. And I think we set a very high bar in terms of production quality and how we interpret the source material of the comics and the DCU itself. Andrew, Greg, and I are all comic book fans, so we feel a real sense of responsibility to produce a show that we, as fans, would want to watch."

Arrow #1, a $3.99 comic, is in comic shops now; ***Arrow #2*** follows on January 2nd, 2013.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

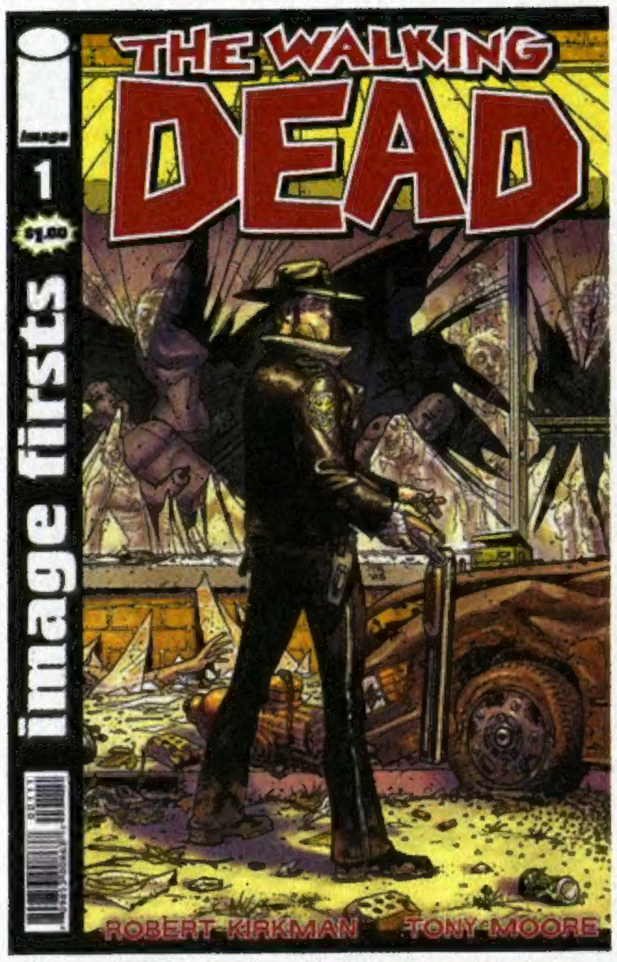

Image: The Buck Starts Here!

A couple of years ago, Image introduced legions of readers to some of its most popular titles with a line of $1 introductory issues. The ***Image Firsts*** campaign proved to be so popular that the publisher is doing it again with a new line of $1 first issues: ***Image Firsts Revival #1, Image Firsts Chew #1, Image Firsts Walking Dead #1, Image Firsts Thief of Thieves #1, Image Firsts Manhattan Projects #1, Image Firsts Fatale #1,*** and ***Image Firsts Saga #1.*** Look for all seven books in shops next week!

Back to Press

- ***Amazing Spider-Man #698 2nd Printing*** (OCT128224), featuring a variant cover by *Paolo Rivera,* in stores 12/19.
- ***Multiple Warheads: Alphabet to Infinity #1 2nd Printing*** (OCT128202), in stores 12/12.

Coming Comics—DC in February

Before Watchmen continues with the debut of ***Before Watchmen: Dollar Bill*** by *Len Wein & Steve Rude,* spotlighting the superhero career of one of the Watchmen's lesser-known characters; ***Before Watchmen: Dr. Manhattan #4*** by *J. Michael Straczynski & Adam Hughes;* ***Before Watchmen: Rorschach #4*** by *Brian Azzarello & Lee Bermejo;* ***Before Watchmen: Comedian #6*** by *Brian Azzarello & J.G. Jones;* and ***Before Watchmen: Ozymandias #6*** by *Len Wein & Jae Lee.*

Grant Morrison bring his Superman run to an end in ***Action Comics #17,*** a 48-page special issue destined to be a milestone in the New 52 as Superman fights to save all of creation.

Hex and Doctor Arkham are at the forefront as a disease threatens to destroy part of the city in ***All Star Western #17*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Moritat.*

The conclusion of "Rotworld" begins in ***Animal Man #17*** by *Jeff Lemire, Scott Snyder, & Steve Pugh* and concludes in ***Swamp Thing #17*** by *Scott Snyder, Jeff Lemire, & Marco Rudy.* Can Buddy find a way to stop the Rot before it takes over the world? And hat will it cost the heroes to stop this apocalypse from happening?

Geoff Johns, Paul Pelletier, & Art Thibert present an epilogue to "Thone of Atlantis" in ***Aquaman #17.*** With the secrets of Atlantis revealed, Aquaman is confronted by a horrible myth from Atlantis's past that's connected to his own.

Barbara Gordon must deal with the fallout from "Death of the Family" in ***Batgirl #17*** by *Gail Simone & Ed Benes,* a pivotal tale that will forever change her status quo in The New 52!

Scott Snyder, Greg Capullo, & Jonathan Glapion bring "Death of the Family" to a startling conclusion in ***Batman #17.*** Who lives? Who dies? Who laughs last? Find out as Batman and The Joker face off one last time!

In *Peter Tomasi & Patrick Gleason's* ***Batman and Robin #17,*** Batman and Robin gear up to protect Gotham City in the week leading up to the 300th anniversary of the city's founding. It's a who's who of Gotham City's worst against The Dynamic Duo!

Ethan Van Sciver's first storyline as regular artist continues in ***Batman: The Dark Knight #17*** as the gory details of The Mad Hatter's past are revealed.

Everything *Grant Morrison* has been planning since the start of ***Batman: Incorporated*** leads to the eighth issue.

Batwing battles the Sky Pirate in ***Batwing #17*** by *Fabian Nicieza & Fabrizio Fiorentino.*

Batwoman and Wonder Woman struggle to defeat Medusa and a horde of villains in ***Batwoman #17*** by *J.H. Williams III & W. Haden Blackman.*

The Birds must battle Basilisk in total darkness in ***Birds of Prey #17*** by *Duane Swierczynski & Romano Molenaar.* And something strange is happening to Black Canary…and only one man can be responsible. But Kurt Lance died years ago—right?

After facing down The Joker and the power of Eclipso, Catwoman needs some downtime—which for her means a crime spree. See her in action in ***Catwoman #17*** by *Ann Nocenti, Rafa Sandoval, & Jordi Tarragona.*

Arsenal gets his solo moment in the sun in ***DC Universe Presents #17*** by *Joe Keatinge & Ricken.*

In ***Deathstroke #17*** by *Justin Jordan, Edgar Salazar, & Scott Hanna,* a corporation hires Deathstroke to track down and neutralize who is responsible for attacks that seem to have little rhyme or reason to them.

Vandal Savage is on the scene to rescue Blood from decades of brutal torture in ***Demon Knights #17*** by *Robert Venditti & Bernard Chang...* but this may not be a good thing.

The repercussions of "Death of the Family" resonate through *John Layman & Jason Fabok's* ***Detective Comics #17*** as Batman tracks down the League of Smiles, a criminal group of psychotic killers that worship The Joker.

Nelson and Roxy continue to uncover secrets of the H-dial in ***Dial H #9*** by *China Mieville, Alberto Ponticelli, & Dan Green.*

Dr. Fate makes his Earth 2 debut in ***Earth 2 #9*** by *James Robinson, Nicola Scott, & Trevor Scott.* Supernatural powers are emerging on Earth 2, and that means new heroes on the scene—not to mention new villains!

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

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Francis Manapul & Brian Buccellato present the finale of "Gorilla Warfare" in ***Flash #17.***

The Teen Titans guest star in ***The Fury of Firestorm: The Nuclear Man #17*** by *Dan Jurgens & Ray McCarthy.* Are the Teen Titans here to help Firestorm—or will they use any means necessary to stop him from losing control of his powers?

As Ollie struggles to come to terms with the loss of his fortune, his company and his heritage, he discovers a shocking truth about his father in ***Green Arrow #17*** by the new creative team of *Jeff Lemire & Andrea Sorrentino*—a secret that ties to his time stranded on an island before he became Green Arrow.

"Wrath of the First Lantern" kicks off in ***Green Lantern #17,*** courtesy of *Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, & Christian Alamy.* The threat that first led to the formation of the Guardians of the Universe returns—and he's set his sights on the biggest and brightest of the Corps! And Simon Baz comes face-to-face with his first supervillain—Black Hand—as the First Lantern targets them both with "life decimation." Plus: The ultimate fate of Hal Jordan and Sinestro is revealed!

"Wrath of the First Lantern" continues in ***Green Lantern Corps #17*** as the Green Lanterns take on the Guardians of Oa and the Third Army... but which side will the First Lantern take?

Green Lantern Kyle Rayner has mastered the emotional spectrum. Will he manifest the powers of the White Lantern, or succumb to those awesome energies? Find out in ***Green Lantern: New Guardians #17,*** a "Wrath of the First Lantern" chapter by *Tony Bedard & Aaron Kuder.*

The Human Bomb and Joan lead a military invasion into a hidden C.R.O.W.N. installation in ***Human Bomb #3*** by *Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Jerry Ordway.*

Cain and Mary are getting a little too close for comfort as the plan to rescue Andrew Bennett nears its end in ***I, Vampire #17*** by *Joshua Hale Fialkov & Dennis Calero.* However, Andrew's got a plan of is own for Cain...

"Throne of Atlantis" comes to a shocking end in ***Justice League #17*** by *Geoff Johns, Ivan Reis, & Joe Prado* as Aquaman and the League make a sinister discovery that changes both the outcome of the war and the future of the Justice League! What is The Grid—and what does it mean to expanding the Justice League?

Green Lantern! Green Arrow! Catwoman! Katana! Vibe! Hawkman! Stargirl! They aren't the world's greatest super heroes—they're the most dangerous! And you'll see them in action in *Geoff Johns & David Finchs'* ***Justice League of America #1.*** But why does a team like the JLA need to exist? What is their ultimate mission? And who is pulling the strings? (This issue will be offered with a standard cover and 52 standard-priced variants featuring the flags of all 50 states plus Washington DC and Puerto Rico. A bargain-priced package of all covers is also available.)

In ***Justice League Dark #17*** by *Jeff Lemire, Ray Fakes, & Mikel Janin,* Constantine and the others are trapped on a world where magic has been outlawed, and Tim Hunter is king. Their only hope of returning home is in the hands of Colonel Steve Trevor—but will the A.R.G.U.S. chief decide to protect the Earth by leaving Team Dark where they are?

From the pages of ***Justice League of America*** and ***Birds of Prey*** comes ***Katana #1*** by *Ann Nocenti & Alex Sanchez.* Katana is a former assassin on a noble quest to restore the Outsiders to their former glory!
Will she succeed, or will she be overcome by the power of her sword, the SoulTaker?

Andrew Kreisberg, Geoff Johns, & Pete Woods present the most unlikely solo hero ever in ***Justice League of America's Vibe #1.*** He will soon discover he's one of the most powerful individuals on Earth. But how did Vibe get his abilities? What is the cost to them? And why does the JLA want him on the team so desperately?

The legendary team of Paul Levitz and Keith Giffen are reunited beginning with ***Legion of Super-Heroes #17*** to put The Legion through hell as the Fatal Five make their deadly intentions known!

Dick Grayson's life lies in ruins in the wake of the events surrounding "Death of the Family." Is his career as Nightwing over? Where will he go now? Find out in ***Nightwing #17*** by *Kyle Higgins, Juan Jose Ryp, & Vicente Cifuentes.*

The Phantom Stranger's family has gone missing! He'll stop at nothing to find them, even if it means going up against Pandora and the vengeful wrath of The Spectre... which is just what happens in ***The Phantom Stranger #5*** by *Dan DiDio, Brent Anderson, & Philip Tan.*

As Thunder's condition worsens in ***The Ravagers #9,*** the rest of the team begins to wonder if Caitlin is helping him—or killing him!

In the wake of "Death of the Family," Bruce Wayne confronts Jason Todd in ***Red Hood & The Outlaws #17*** by *Scott Lobdell & Timothy Green II.* You do *not* want to miss this!

Atrocitus and his Red Lanterns seek final vengeance against the Guardians of Oa—but things don't go as planned in ***Red Lanterns #17,*** a "Wrath of the First Lantern" chapter by *Peter Milligan & Miguel Sepulveda.*

The Shadow Thief makes his first appearance in The New 52 in ***The Savage Hawkman #17*** by *Frank Tieri, Joe Bennett, & Art Thibert.*

Witness the death of a StormWatch member in ***Stormwatch #17*** by *Peter Milligan & Will Conrad.*

A dangerous surprise from Yo-Yo's past awaits the Squad in ***Suicide Squad #17.*** And a familiar face returns, against all odds!

Superboy faces off against the Herald of the Oracle in ***Superboy #17*** by *Tom DeFalco, R.B. Silva, & Rob Lean,* a "H'El on Earth" installment.

Mike Johnson & Mahmud Asrar reveal how far Kara will go to save Krypton in ***Supergirl #17,*** the penultimate chapter of "H'El on Earth."

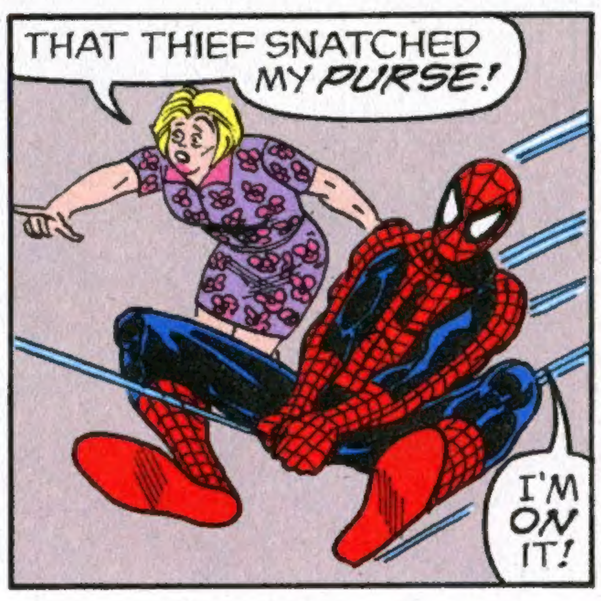
Scott Lobdell & Kenneth Rocafort bring "H'El on Earth" to its conclusion in ***Superman #17.*** It's the final fight with H'El — and to win, one of the team will have to make a fatal sacrifice!

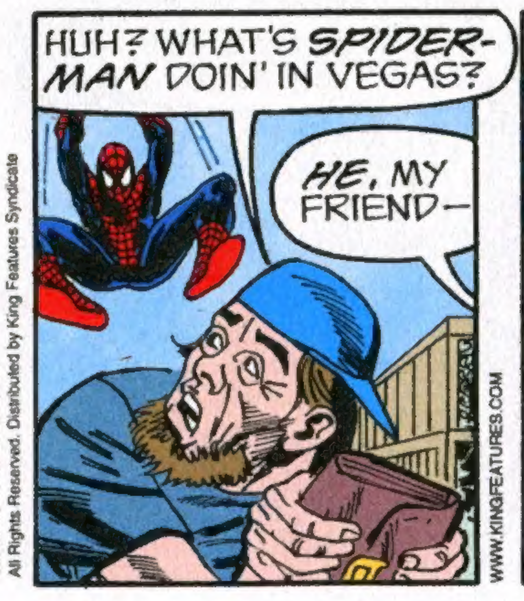
Amy learns how her father died and is forced to test her skills when she's attacked by

assassins from House Onyx in ***Sword of Sorcery #5*** by *Christy Marx & Aaron Lopresti.* And in the backup story, *Marc Andreyko & Andrei Bressan* introduce the New 52 Stalker, the immortal warrior without a soul.

Talon takes on Felix Harmon, a.k.a. The Gotham Ripper, in ***Talon #5*** by *Scott Snyder, James Tynion IV, & Guillem March.*

Learn all about secret history of the DCU's original Cyborg Program in ***Team 7 #5*** by *Justin Jordan & Pascal Alixe.*





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The Titans is finally reunited in the wake of "Death of the Family"—but something is very wrong with Red Robin! What did The Joker do? Find out in ***Teen Titans #17*** by *Scott Lobdell, Eddy Barrows, & Eber Ferreira.*

Renegade Green Lantern Jediah Caul takes on Blue Beetle in ***Threshold #2*** by *Keith Giffen & Tom Raney.* And in the Larfleeze backup story, the hunt is on for Larfleeze's stolen power battery — but the clock is ticking on his ring's charge!

Wonder Woman, War, and Orion must join forces to save Zola's baby from Hermes in ***Wonder Woman #17*** by *Brian Azzarello, Tony Akins, & Dan Green.* But Orion's reasons for helping Wonder Woman lead to a disastrous betrayal!

In ***Worlds' Finest #9*** by *Paul Levitz, Kevin Maguire, George Pérez, & Sandra Hope,* Power Girl and a wounded Huntress are attacked on Power Girl's island headquarters by a mysterious and deadly new group of villains.

Romance is in the air in ***Young Romance: A New 52 Valentine's Day Special,*** a 64-page anthology that leads off with a tale in which Wonder Woman consults Eros himself about her feelings for The Man of Steel. Other stories focus on Batgirl, Catwoman, Aquaman, Apollo & Midnighter, and Dick Grayson.

Supergirl and her cousin Power Girl confront a full-on space invasion in ***Ame-Comic Girls #5 Featuring Supergirl.***

Joe Kubert Presents #5 lead off with "Farewell," by *Paul Levitz & Joe Kubert*—a Sgt. Rock tale that's unlike any you've read before! This issue features two more tales from Kubert: "The Biker" and "Spit."

Plus: *Sam Glanzman* unveils a new tale of U.S.S. Stevens, and the latest "Angel and the Ape" chapter by *Brian Buniak.*

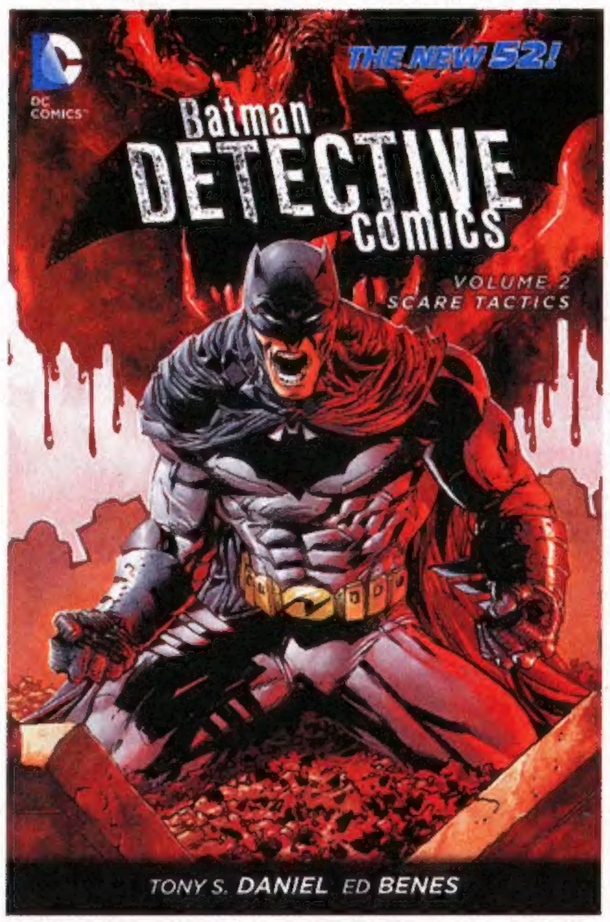
Joshua Hale Fialkov, Phil Hester, & Eric Gapstur feature Gotham City private eye Slam Bradley in ***Legend of the Dark Knight #5.***

Superman races to find answers as mysterious "speed storms" begin to break out across the globe in ***Smallville Season 11 #10*** by *Bryan Q. Miller & Jorge Jimenez.* Meanwhile, Lex hands Tess an ultimatum: Reveal everything she knows about the Man of Steel, or face oblivion.

A stalwart mage searches for a powerful artifact, stolen by Dark Riders, only to find his son accused of murder in ***World of Warcraft: Dark Riders HC,*** an original graphic novel by *Mike Costa & Neil Googe.*

DC collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include:

- ***The All-New Batman: The Brave & the Bold—Small Miracles TP,*** collecting ***Batman: The Brave & the Bold #s 17 & 17*** and ***The All-New Batman: The Brave & the Bold #s 13-16.***
- ***All Star Western Volume 2: The War of Lords and Owls TP,*** collecting ***All-Star Western #s 7-12.***
- ***Batman Volume 1: The Court of Owls TP,*** collecting ***Batman #s 1-7.***



- ***Batman: Detective Comics Volume 2—Scare Tactics HC,*** collecting ***Detective Comics #s 8-12 & 0*** and ***Annual #1.***
- ***Batman: Gotham by Gaslight TP,*** collecting *Brian Augustyn's* ***Gotham & Gaslight*** (featuring art by *Mike Mignola)* and ***Master of the Future.***
- ***Batwing Volume 2: In the Shadows of the Ancients TP,*** collecting ***Batwing #s 7-12 & 0.***
- ***Crisis on Multiple Earths Volume 6 TP,*** collecting ***Justice League of America #s 195-197, 207-209, & 219-220.***
- ***Day of Judgment TP,*** collecting ***Day of Judgment #s 1-5 & Secret Files.***
- ***The DC Universe by Alan Moore TP,*** collecting all of Moore's DCU work except for ***The Killing Joke.***
- ***GI Combat Volume 1: The War That Time Forgot TP,*** collecting ***GI Combat #s 0-7.***
- ***I, Vampire Volume 2: Rise of the Vampires TP,*** collecting ***I, Vampire #s 7-12*** and ***Justice League Dark #s 7 & 8.***
- ***The Jack Kirby Omnibus Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***Black Magic #s 1-9; First Issue Special #s 1, 5, & 6; The Sandman #s 1-6; Kung-Fu Fighter #3, DC Comics Presents #84; Super Powers Vol 1 #s 1-5 & Vol 2 #s 1-6;*** and ***Kobra #1.***
- ***Marshall Law: The Deluxe Edition HC,*** collecting all of the Marshal Law tales by *Pat Mills & Kevin O'Neill* in a massive 480-page volume.
- ***The New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume 3 HC,*** collecting ***Tales of the Teen Titans #s 45-61 & 66-67, New Teen Titans #38, New Teen Titans #s 1-6,*** and ***Secret Origins Annual #3.***
- ***Red Lanterns Volume 2: The Death of the Red Lanterns TP,*** collecting ***Red Lanterns #s 8-12 & Stormwatch #9.***
- ***Showcase Presents Superman Family Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***Jimmy Olsen #s 45-53*** and ***Lois Lane #s 17-26.***
- ***The Starman Omnibus Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Starman #s 30-38, Starman Annual #2, & Starman Secret Files #1.***
- ***Superman: The Man of Tomorrow Archives Volume 3 HC,*** collecting the Silver Age ***Superman #s 132-139*** and Superman tales from ***Action Comics #s 255-266.***
- ***Superman: The Reign of Doomsday TP,*** collecting ***Action Comics #s 900-904.***
- ***Superman Vs. Zod TP,*** collecting tales by *Richard Donner, Geoff Johns,* and others.
- ***World of Warcraft: Dark Riders HC,*** c

Coming Comics—Vertigo/DC in February

Peter Milligan & Giuseppe Camuncoli bring John Constantine's Vertigo adventures to a dramatic conclusion in ***Hellblazer #300.*** Constantine has escaped, cheated, narrowly avoided and even reversed death on multiple occasions over the past 25 years. Now, we will test whether the old boy has one more second chance in him.

Vertigo collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include:

- ***100 Bullets Deluxe Edition Book Four HC,*** collecting ***100 Bullets #s 59-80.***
- ***Joe the Barbarian TP,*** collecting the miniseries by *Grant Morrison & Sean Murphy.*
- ***The Unwritten Volume 7: The Wound TP,*** collecting ***The Unwritten #s 36-41.***

Coming from DC Collectibles

The ***Batman: Arkham City*** line of action figures continues with ***Series 4,*** featuring ***Deadshot, Nightwing, Talia,*** and ***Batman.***

Fan-favorite Sean "Cheeks" Galloway displays his unique artistic vision with his very own ***Batman Black & White Statue by Sean "Cheeks" Galloway.***

Frank Miller's classic is the inspiration for ***Batman: The Dark Knight Returns—A Call to Arms Statue,*** depicting the Dark Knight riding a steed as black as the night he defends.

Coming Comics—Marvel in February

Mystique targets the young time-travelers in ***All-New X-Men #7*** by *Brian Bendis, David Marquez, & Stuart Immonen.* And she's starting with Cyclops...

Superpowered sidekick Alpha goes solo in the five-part ***Alpha*** by *Joshua Hale Fialkov & Nuno Plati.* Alpha was having an awesome

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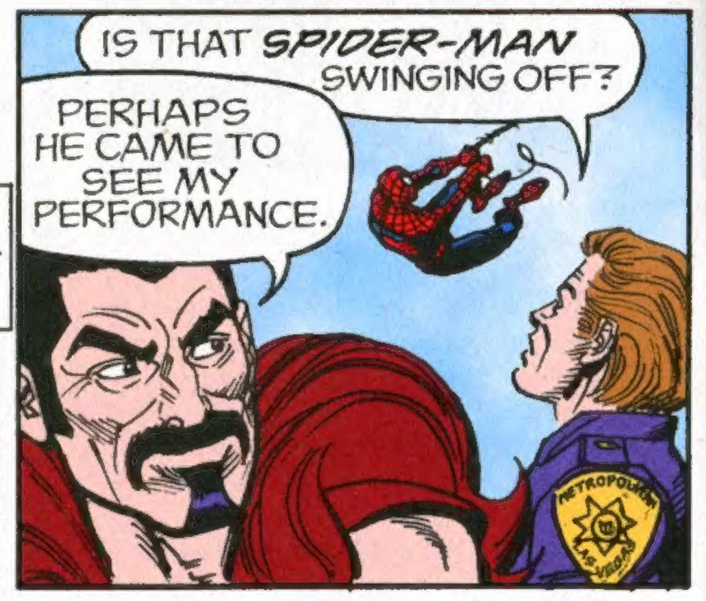

time of it, till that buzz-kill Spider-Man made him quit being a hero. But things have changed...

Meet Smasher, the first human member of the Imperial Guard *and* an Avenger, in ***Avengers #5*** by *Jonathan Hickman & Adam Kubert*. Then, in #6, they reveal the secret origin of the Universe.

In *Kelly Sue DeConnick & Pete Woods'* ***Avengers Assemble #12,*** the Black Widow, Spider-Woman and Hawkeye must travel to Siberia to search for a missing girl with ties to an old Soviet assassination. But the truth behind this girl's disappearance may be more than the Avengers are prepared to handle!

Peter David, Andre DiVito, and others explore the formation of Marvel's premiere super-team in ***Avengers Season One HC.***

The Superior Spider-Man teams up with the Future Foundation in ***Avenging Spider-Man #17*** by *Christopher Yost & Paco Medina.*

Witness the massacre that makes Cable and X-Force criminals in ***Cable & X-Force #4*** by *Dennis Hopeless & Salvador Larroca.*

Rick Remender & John Romita Jr. introduce Jet Black in ***Captain America #4.*** She's waited her whole life for a chance to destroy Captain

BUT WHY'D HE BOTHER TO CAPTURE A PURSE-SNATCHER?
MAYBE HE WANTED TO IMPRESS HIS GIRLFRIEND!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 11-22
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This month, Dark Horse launches an all-new Star Wars with Brian Wood!
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GREEN ARROW #17

DC Comics

This issue features the premiere of the new creative team of writer Jeff Lemire (*Sweet Tooth*) and artist Andrea Sorrentino! With his world shattered, Ollie learns a devastating secret about his father that ties to his time stranded on an island before becoming Green Arrow!

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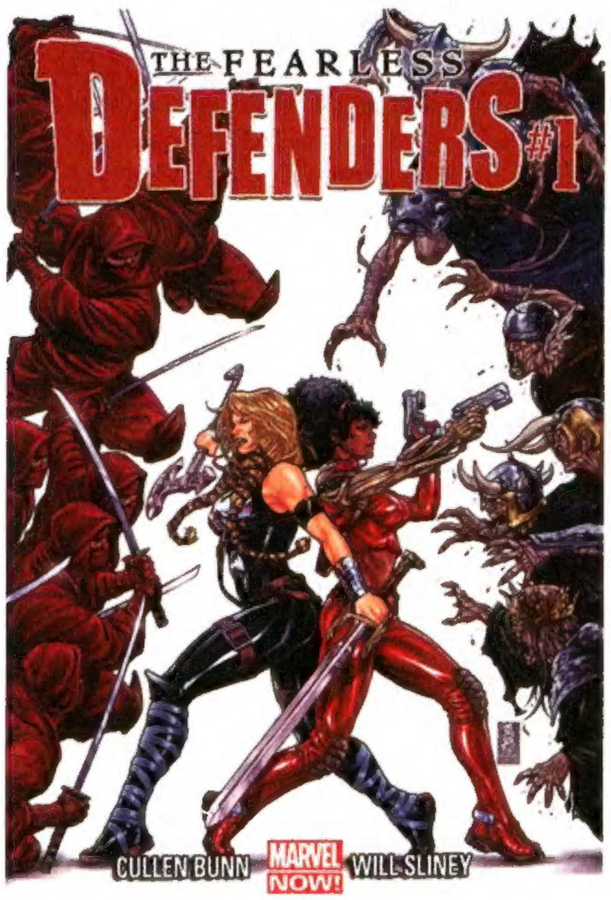
America... and now her dream may be coming true!

Deadpool maligns ***Tom Sawyer*** and ***Little Women*** in ***Deadpool Killustrated #2*** by *Cullen Bunn & Matteo Lolli.*

Dexter Morgan finally makes his comic book debut in ***Dexter #1,*** written by novelist and Dexter creator *Jeff Lindsay.* In the first issue, Dexter's serial killing streak is put on hold as he find himself trapped in a sticky situation – his high school reunion!

An alien world, a thousand-year-old prophesy—is the Invisible Woman a long-awaited intergalactic messiah? Find out in ***Fantastic Four #4*** by *Matt Fraction & Mark Bagley.*



Cullen Bunn & Will Sliney premiere the first all-female Defenders team in ***Fearless Defenders #1.*** Valkyrie and Misty Knight are the core members of the Fearless Defenders—and not since Power Man and Iron Fist has an unlikely duo kicked this much posterior!

Star-Lord. Gamora. Drax. Rocket Raccoon. Groot. ...and the Invincible Iron Man?! The Marvel Universe just got bigger as ***The Guardian of the Galaxy*** return in a #0.1 issue by Brian Michael Bendis and Steve McNiven. In this special prelude issue meet the man behind the Guardians: Star-Lord… and discover how this child of Earth became the leader of the rag-taggiest of teams in all the Galaxy.

Bruce Banner leads SHIELD in a race to the ocean floor searching for... well, Marvel won't tell us what. But we *do* know that Attuma is going to get in the way of that search! Watch the confrontation in ***Indestructible Hulk #4*** by *Mark Waid & Leinil Francis Yu.*

Howard Chaykin & Gerald Parel offer a new look at the formative days of the armored Avenger in ***Iron Man Season One HC.***

The Superior Spider-Man guest-stars in ***Journey Into Mystery #649*** by *Kathryn Immonen & Valerio Schiti.*

Morbius, on the run and desperate to quell his vampiric tendencies. But has the midnight son really changed? Find out in ***Morbius: The Living Vampire #2*** by *Joe Keatinge & Richard Elson.*

In *Jonathan Hickman & Steve Epting's* ***New Avengers #3,*** the Illuminati experience their first incursion since re-forming. Can the loose brotherhood of end times trust each other enough to use the Infinity Gems in unison?

You've followed him through ***AvX*** and now the mystery of the all-new Nova are revealed in the all-new ***Nova #1*** by *Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness.* Sam Alexander is a kid bound by the gravity of a small town and a father whose ridiculous, drunken fairy tales about a "Nova Corps" were just another heavy burden in a life full of them. But could there have been truth in those tales?...

Powers: Bureau #1 finally arrives in February, courtesy of *Brian Bendis & Michael Avon Oeming.* Deena Pilgrim is now a federal agent and dealing with the biggest powers cases in the entire country. But will this new life close the closet full of skeletons she carries with her? And what does this mean for her old partner, Walker?

Wolverine and Shanna venture into the depths of the Forbidden Island in *Frank Cho's* ***Savage Wolverine #2...*** but what will get them first, the Island's inhabitants or their tempers?

The new Nick Fury leads a covert Avengers strike team including—but not limited to—Hawkeye, Black Widow, The Hulk, The Winter Soldier, Maria Hill and Phil Coulson on missions so dangerous, even the team members themselves can't know about them! But you can, if you pick up *Nick Spencer & Luke Ross's* ***Secret Avengers #1.***

The all-new Spider-Man in cahoots with... J. Jonah Jameson? Find out what's going on in ***Superior Spider-Man #3*** by *Dan Slott & Ryan Stegman.*

As three Thors from three eras race to stop the God Butcher, the full extent of his vicious scheme takes terrifying shape in ***Thor: God of Thunder #5*** by *Jason Aaron & Esad Ribic.*

Ultimate Spider-Man takes on the new Venom in ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man #20*** by *Brian Bendis & Sara Pichelli.* But who is this new Venom, and what is his terrible connection to Miles Morales' father?

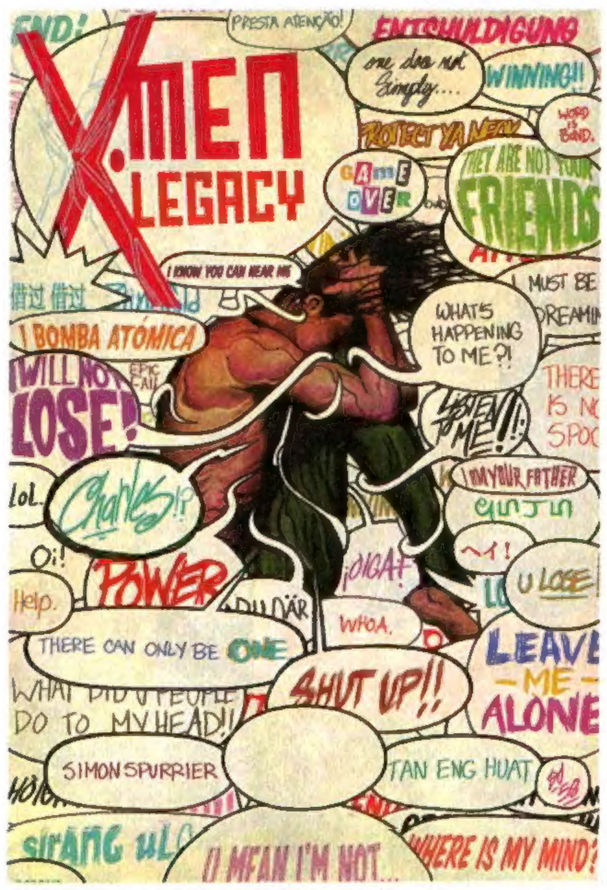
Wonder Man, Wasp and Sunfire join the team just in time for Grim Reaper's revenge in ***Uncanny Avengers #5*** by *Rick Remender & Olivier Coipel.*

The true flagship mutant title returns with the debut of ***Uncanny X-Men #1*** by *Brian Bendis & Chris Bachalo.* In the wake of the Phoenix, the world has changed and is torn on exactly what Cyclops and his team of X-Men are – visionary revolutionaries or dangerous terrorists? Whatever the truth, Cyclops, Emma Frost, Magneto, and Magik are out in the world gathering up new mutants and redefining the name Uncanny X-Men.

Flash Thompson bids farewell to New York City and head's to his new home, Philadelphia, in ***Venom #31*** by *Cullen Bunn & Declan Shalvey.*

Peter David & Leonard Kirk continue the "Hell on Earth War" in ***X-Factor #251 & 252*** as X-Factor struggles to stop the Lords of Hell from tearing the Earth apart in their battle for dominance!

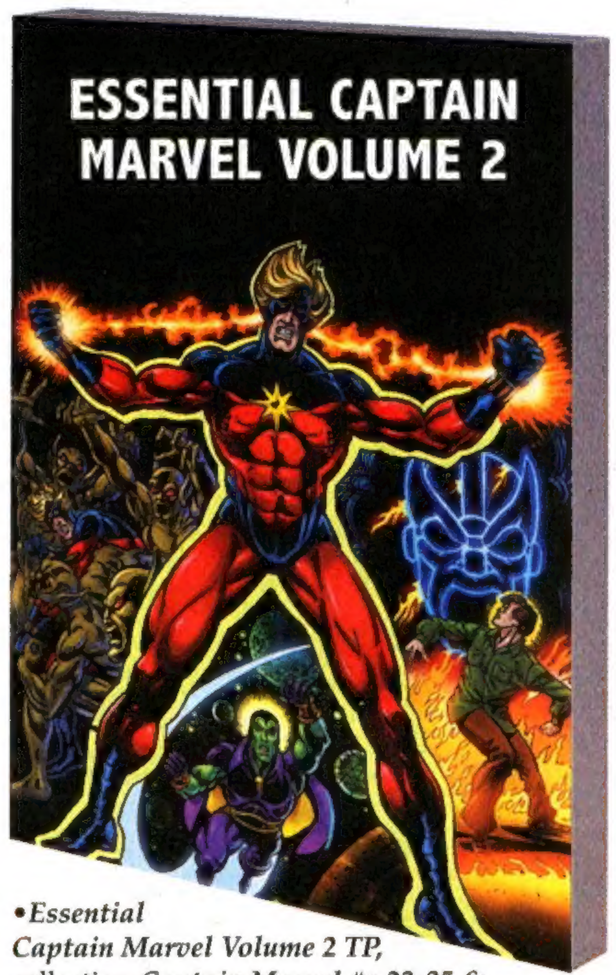
X-Men comes to an end with #41 as Storm puts together a team to help launch the next era in ***X-Men*** history.



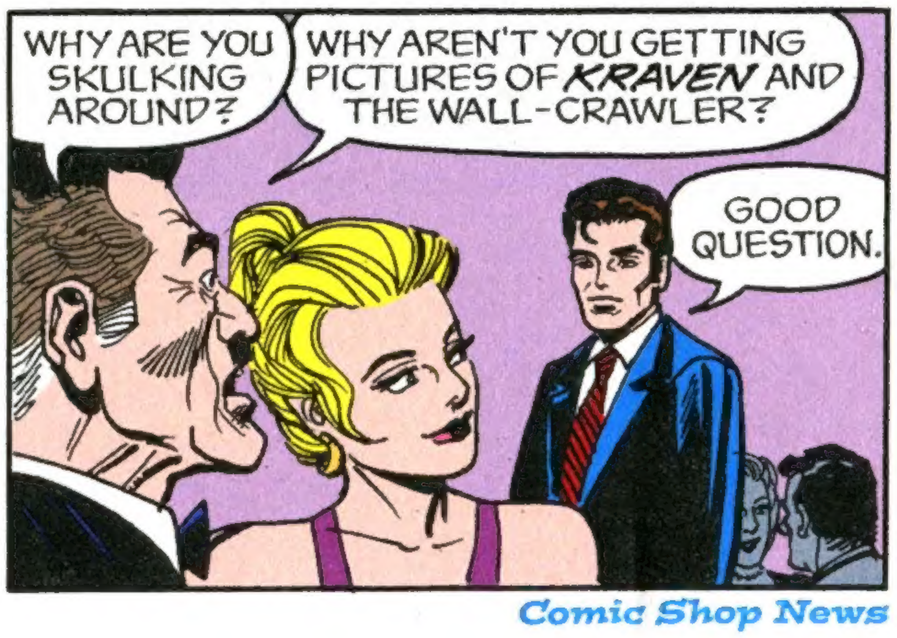
Discovering a plot to assassinate one of the X-Men that he inadvertently put into motion, Legion infiltrates the Jean Grey School for Higher Learning…but after their last run-in, will the X-Men accept his help? *Simon Spurrier & Jorge Molina* answer that question in ***X-Men Legacy #6.***

Marvel collected editions include:

- ***All-New X-Men Volume 1:: Here Comes Yesterday Premiere HC,*** collecting ***All-New X-Men #s 1-5.***
- ***Astonishing X-Men Volume 10: Northstar TP,*** collecting ***astonishing X-Men #s 48-51*** and more.
- ***Avengers Infinity TP,*** collecting the four-part limited series.
- ***Avengers Vs. X-Men Companion HC,*** a hefty 1088-page compendium collecting every ***AvX*** tie-in in one volume.
- ***Avengers Vs. X-Men: Avengers Academy TP,*** collecting ***Avengers Academy #s 29-33.***
- ***Daredevil by Mark Waid Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Daredevil #s 11-15, Avenging Spider-Man #6,*** and ***Punisher #10.***
- ***Daredevil by Mark Waid Volume 4 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Daredevil #s 16-21.***
- ***Deadpool Classic Volume 8 TP,*** collecting ***Deadpool (1997) #s 57-64.***



- ***Essential Captain Marvel Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Captain Marvel #s 22-35 & 37-46, Iron Man #55,*** and ***Marvel Feature #12.***
- ***Gambit Volume 1: Once a Thief... TP,*** collecting ***Gambit #s 1-7.***
- ***Guardians of the Galaxy: Tomorrow's Avengers Volume 2 TP,*** collecting 376 of classic 1970s Guardians of the Galaxy adventures from the pages of ***Thor, Avengers,*** and more.
- ***Hawkeye Volume 1: My Life as a Weapon TP,*** collecting ***Hawkeye #s 1-6*** and more.
- ***Invincible Iron Man Volume 10: Long Way Down TP,*** collecting ***Invincible Iron Man #s 516-520.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks: Captain Marvel Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Marvel Super-Heroes #s 12 & 13*** and ***Captain Marvel #s 1-9.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks: The Invincible Iron Man Volume 8 HC,*** collecting ***Iron Man #s 39-53.***
- ***Marvel Noir: Wolverine & the X-Men TP,*** collecting the ***X-Men: Noir, Wolverine: Noir,*** and ***Weapon X: Noir*** miniseries.
- ***Marvel Zombies Destroy! TP,*** collecting the five-part limited series.
- ***The Mighty Thor by Matt Fraction Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Mighty Thor #s 12.1 & 13-17.***
- ***New Warriors Omnibus Volume 1 HC,*** collecting ***New Warriors #s 1-26 & Annual #s 1 & 2,*** along with oodles of crossover appearances, in a single 1064-page doorstop of a book.
- ***Power Pack Classic Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***Power Pack #s 27-36*** and more.
- ***Scarlet Spider Volume 2: Lone Star TP,*** collecting ***Scarlet Spider #s 7-9 & 12-15.***
- ***Spider-Man: Lizard—No Turning Back TP,*** collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man #s 688-6921 & Untold Tales of Spider-Man #9.***



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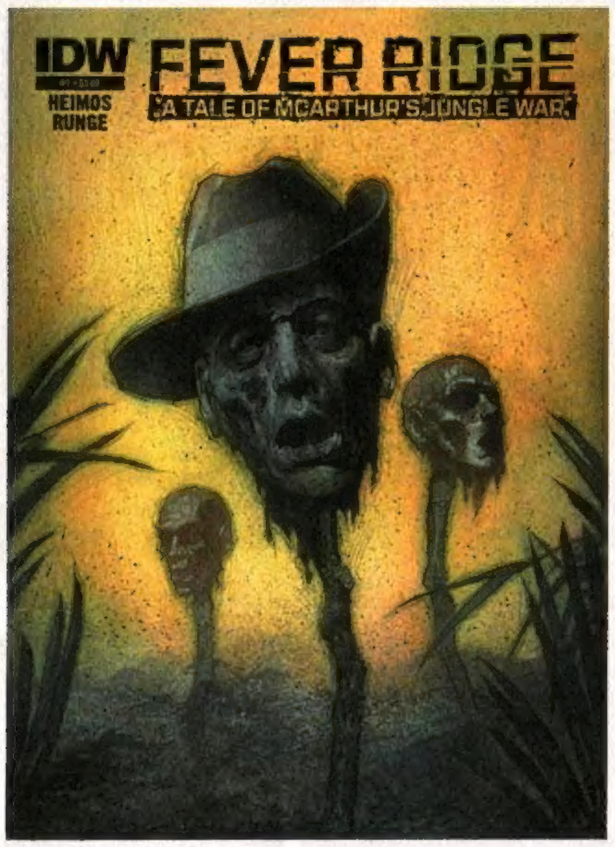
•***Superior TP,*** collecting the limited series by *Mark Millar & Leinil Francis Yu.*
•***Ultimate Comics Iron Man TP,*** collecting the four-issue limited series.
•***Winter Soldier Volume 3: Black Widow Hunt TP,*** collecting ***Winter Soldier #s 10-14.***
•***Wolverine: Rot TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine #s 305-309.***
•***Wolverine & the X-Men by Jason Aaron Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine & the X-Men #s 9-13.***
•***X-Factor Volume 19: Short Stories TP,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 246-249.***
•***X-Men: Wolverine/Gambit TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine/Gambit: Victims #s 1-4.***
•***X-Treme X-Men Volume 1: Xavier Must Die! TP,*** collecting ***X-Treme X-Men #s 1-5.***

Coming Comics—IDW in February

The Second Doctor takes the spotlight in ***Doctor Who: Prisoners of Time #2*** *by Scott & David Tipton* and *Lee Sullivan,* the second installment of a 12-part epic adventure featuring all 11 incarnations of the Doctor!



Fever Ridge: A Tale of McCarthur's Jungle War #1 by *Mike Heimos & Nick Runge* looks at the South Pacific theatre of World War II from the point of view of the 6th Army's 6th Infantry Division ("the Sightseein' Sixth") and their jungle commandoes, the Alamo Scouts, under the command of Gen. Walter Kreuger.

The truth is out: the world knows the G.I. Joe team is real. Now Duke leads his squad directly into the public eye, confronting COBRA on American soil, in the relaunched ***G.I. Joe #1*** by *Fred Van Lente & Steve Kurth.*

Jack Davis's EC Stories: Artist's Edition HC, a 176-page 15" x 22" hardcover reproduced in full color to show off every detail, collects a heaping helping of Davis's most popular EC tales as shot from the original art in the same size as he originally drew it. It's the closest any of us will come to actually owning all this art!

Conor McCreery & Anthony Del Col bring back their popular literary fantasy in ***Kill Shakespeare: The Tide of Blood #1.*** With Richard III and Lady Macbeth defeated, Hamlet, Juliet, Othello and Romeo face an even greater danger—Prospero, a rogue wizard who plans to destroy all of creation.

My Little Pony Micro-Series: Twilight Sparkle #1 is the first of six spotlights focusing on the most popular Ponies. In this tale, Sparkle sets out to find the author of an unfinished literary masterpiece.

The Ghostbusters are gone, spirited away by some dastardly demons from another dimension! Which means that a new group will need to step up and don the proton packs. Meet them in ***The New Ghostbusters #1*** by *Eric Burnham & Dan Schoening.*

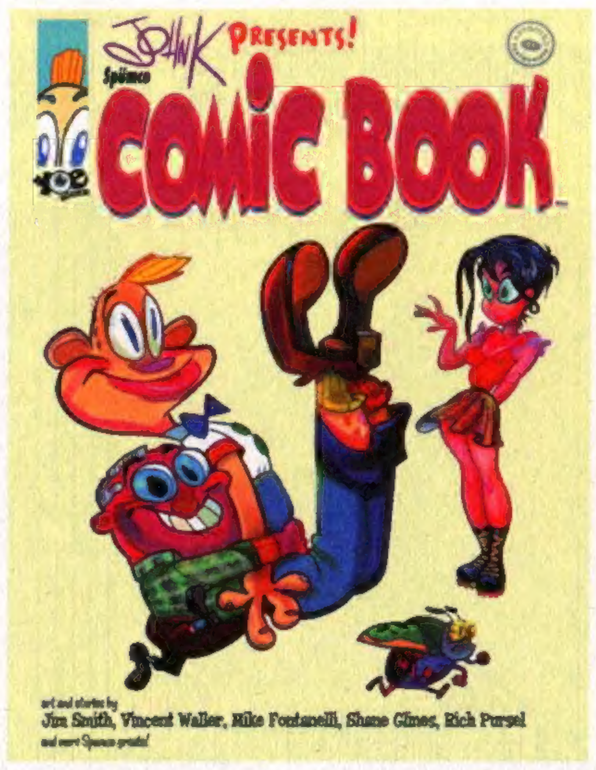
Missing scientists! Plucky girl reporters! Betty and Cliff on the rocks! The mysterious Church of Cosmicism! And who is the sinister Otto Rune? Pulp thrills the way you like them courtesy of *Roger Langridge & J. Bone* in ***The Rocketeer: Hollywood Horror #1.***

Uhura is spotlighted in ***Star Trek #18*** by *Mike Johnson, Ryan Parrott, & Claudia Balboni.*

Nick Roche takes readers back to the last time Megatron returned. In ***Transformers Spotlight: Megatron,*** we learn exactly what happened.

In the gothic sci-fi adventure ***Vitriol the Hunter #1,*** *Billy Martin* (guitarist of Good Charlotte) and *Brent Allen* bring a new grisly horror to life! As Basilika City's last great hope, Vitriol stands as the only force that can stop Lord Barthus and his heinous vampire regime from overtaking the city.

IDW collected editions include:
•***30 Days of Night Volume 3: Run, Alice, Run TP,*** collecting ***30 Days of Night #s 9-12.***
•***Classic Popeye Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Classic Popeye #s 1-4.***
•***The Complete Little Orphan Annie Volume 9 HC,*** collecting strips from 2/29/40 through 11/23/41.
•***The Crow: Death & Rebirth HC,*** collecting the miniseries by *John Shirley & Kevin Colden.*
•***Doctor Who: The Forgotten,*** an oversized story collection of the six-part miniseries.
•***Dungeons & Dragons Classics Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***Advanced Dungeons &Dragons #s 27-36.***
•***GI Joe Complete Civil War Compendium TP,*** collecting the tale that spanned multiple issues of ***GI Joe, Snake-Eyes,*** and ***COBRA.***
•***GI Joe: Disavowed Volume 7 TP,*** collecting ***GI Joe #s 39-43.***
•***John Kricfalusi Presents Spumco Comic Book HC,*** a 160-page volume reprinting the cult fave by the legendary animator and his pals.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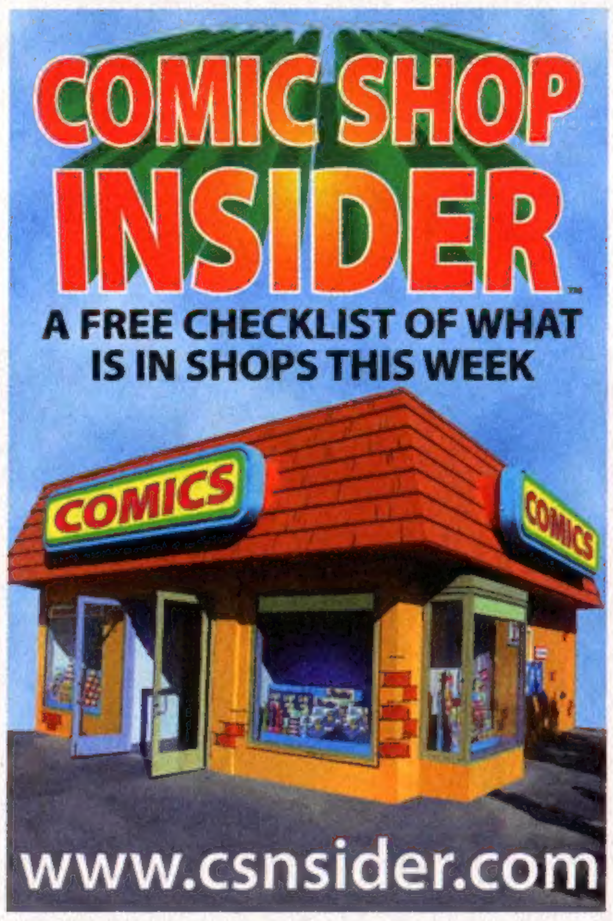
COMIC BOOK
art and stories by
Jim Smith, Vincent Waller, Mike Fontanelli, Shane Glines, Rich Pursel
and more Spumco greats!

•***Judge Dredd: The Complete Carlos Ezquerra Volume 1 HC,*** featuring 248 pages of Dredd tales.
•***KISS: Greatest Hits Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Psycho Circus #s 7-13.***
•***Locke & Key: Head Games Special Edition HC,*** collecting the six-issue miniseries plus *Joe Hill's* original scripts in a deluxe leatherbound edition.
•***Mars Attacks! Volume 1: Attack From Space TP,*** collecting the first stories of the all-new ***Mars Attacks*** universe.
•***Rocketeer: Cargo of Doom HC,*** collecting the miniseries by *Mark Waid & Chris Samnee.*
•***Star Trek: The Next Generation—Hive TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries.
•***Steve Canyon Volume 3 HC,*** collecting strips from 1951 & 1952.
•***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Volume 4: Sins of the Fathers TP,*** collecting ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** (new series) #s 9-12.
•***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles #50 Treasury Edition,*** an oversized reprint of *Kevin Eastman & Peter Laird's* landmark silent fiftieth issue.
•***Zombies Vs. Robots Premiere Convention Edition HC,*** collecting 194 pages of *Chris Ryall-Ashley Wood* ***RvZ*** action.

Coming Comics—Image in February

13-year-old Tyler finds himself in a specialized school where assassins send their kids for education and training in one of the five deadly weapons. Tyler doesn't have a weapon or any fighting skills, but he still plans to graduate by beating every weapon master in the school in *Jimmie Robinson's* ***Five Weapons #1.***

In a fantastic world far from our own, an ancient magic spell almost split the world in two and left an endless ravine in the north.



One man, Nebezial Asheri, driven by the deaths of his wife and daughters will attempt to reclaim that magic and bring his loved ones back to life in ***Ravine #1*** by *Stjepan Sejic.*

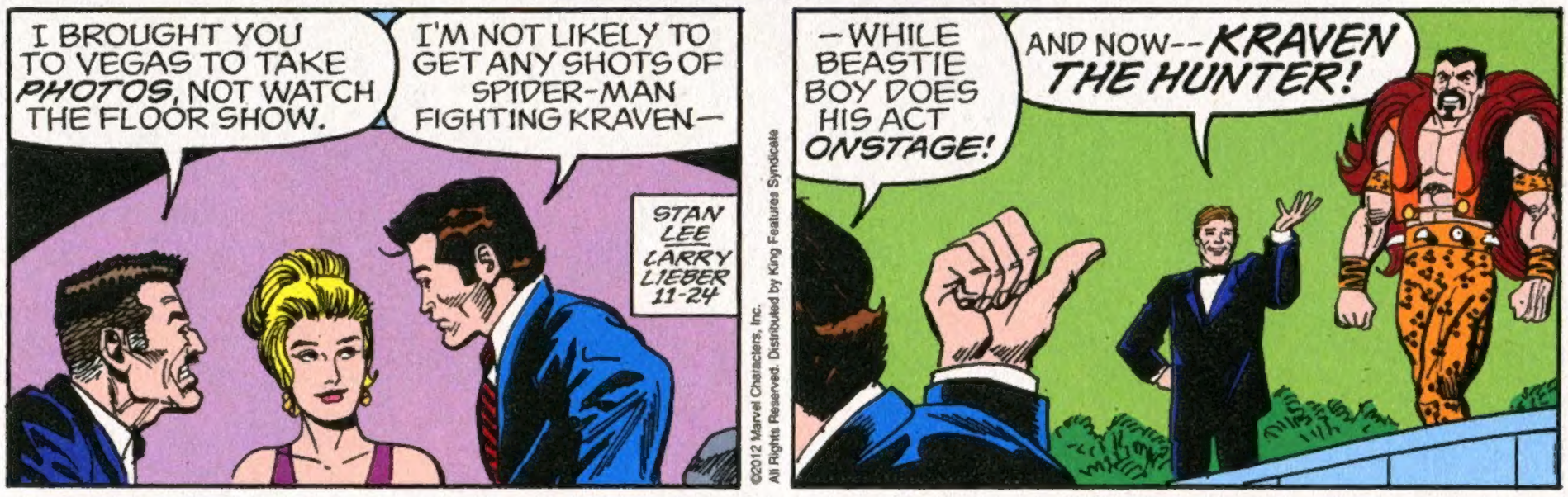
Jake Dobson works at the Near-Mint Rhino comic-book store in San Francisco. But when he finds a lost cell phone, he's horrified to discover it's full of snapshots of a murder victim. Suddenly he finds himself hunted by a vengeful hitman who wants his phone back—and Jake in a body bag—in ***Snapshot #1*** by *Andy Diggle & Jock.*

A brilliant scientist discovers that he is the bastard son of the world's greatest wizard Merlin in ***Son of Merlin #1*** by *Robert Napton & Zid.*

Two hard-headed mercenaries kill monsters and cause havoc in their search for money, fame and adventure in ***Uncanny Skullkickers #1*** by *Jim Zub & Edwin Huant.*

When a cute little alien named ZED demonstrates his invention to the Hierarchy of the Galaxy, something goes wrong – terribly wrong! Before long, ZED's universe is thrown into complete turmoil and our little hero must face nearly insurmountable odds trying to survive and save the very fate of his home world in ***ZED: A Cosmic Tale GN*** by *Michael Gagné.*

Image collected editions include:
•***The Darkness: Rebirth Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***The Darkness #s 106-110.***
•***Debris TP,*** collecting the miniseries by *Kurtis J. Wiebe & Riley Rossmo.*
•***Super Dinosaur Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Super Dinosaur #s 12-17.***
•***The Walking Dead Omnibus Volume 1 HC (New Printing),*** a slipcased hardcover collecting ***Walking Dead #s 1-24.***
•***The Walking Dead Omnibus Volume 3 HC (New Printing),*** a slipcased hardcover collecting ***Walking Dead #s 49-72.***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I'M NOT LIKELY TO GET ANY SHOTS OF SPIDER-MAN FIGHTING KRAVEN—
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 11-24
—WHILE BEASTIE BOY DOES HIS ACT ONSTAGE!
AND NOW--KRAVEN THE HUNTER!
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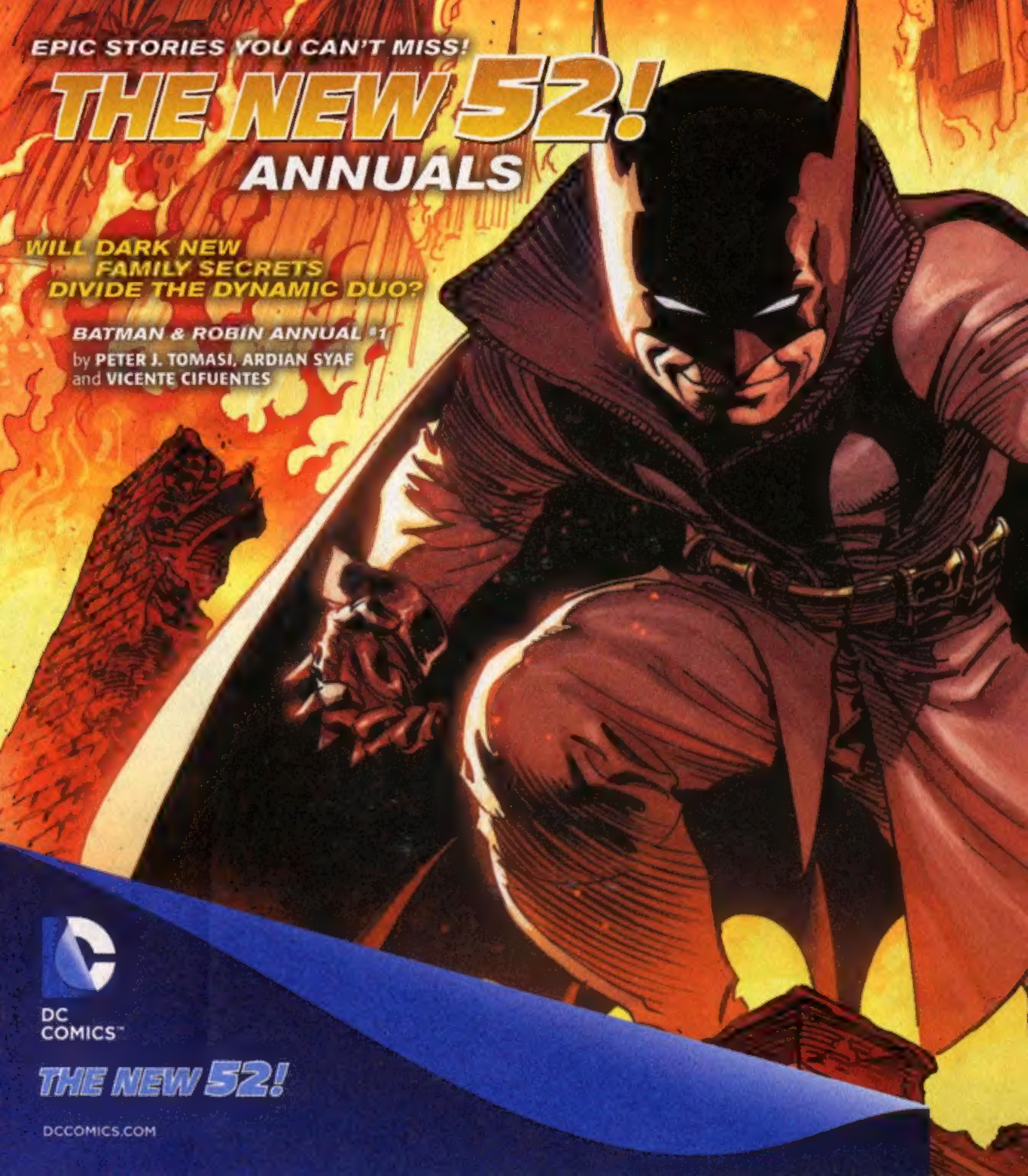
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SUPERMAN LEARNS THE TRUTH BEHIND SUPERBOY'S ORIGIN!

SUPERBOY ANNUAL #1
by **TOM DEFALCO** and **YVEL GUICHET**

BETRAYED...BY A GREEN LANTERN!

GREEN LANTERN: NEW GUARDIANS ANNUAL #1
by **KEITH GIFFEN, SCOTT KOLINS** and **ANDREI BRESSAN**

JANUARY 2013

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